

REMARKS

Current amendments to the specification to correct typographical errors are provided herewith. These corrections address typographical or grammatical errors and do not add any new matter.

Please note that the Applicants are entitled to correct the typographical error in the priority claim as the proper priority claim to US Provisional 60/449,054, filed February 22, 2003, was present in the transmittal letter of February 21, 2004 and was recognized by the Office in the Filing Receipt mailed by the Office on June 14, 2004. As stated in MPEP §201.11, V.: “If an applicant includes a benefit claim in the application but not in the manner specified by 37 CFR 1.78(a) (e.g., if the claim is included in an oath or declaration or the application transmittal letter) within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 1.78(a), the Office will not require a petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a) and the surcharge under 37 CFR 1.17(t) to correct the claim if the information concerning the claim was recognized by the Office as shown by its inclusion on the filing receipt” (*emphasis added*).

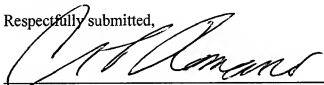
Support for the amendments to the descriptions of the cotton (SEQ ID NO:9) and rice (SEQ ID NO:10) consensus sequences provided herewith can at least be found in the original specification’s preceding descriptions of the rice SEQ ID NO:2 and cotton SEQ ID NO:3 transcription factor sequences (see page 5, line 21 through 25 of the specification as originally filed), the Sequence Listing as originally filed, which clearly indicated that SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:10 are rice sequences and that SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:9 are cotton sequences, and the sequences presented in Figure 1 as originally filed. One of ordinary skill in the art would readily recognize, in light of the information provided in the original Figure, the Sequence listing, and the other sections of the specification, that the original description that referred to “a cotton transcription factor which has the full amino acid sequence of *SEQ ID NO:2*” (*emphasis added*) contained a typographic error and should read “a cotton transcription factor which has the full amino acid sequence of *SEQ ID NO:3*” (*emphasis added*). Such an individual would for the same reasons recognize that the original description that referred to “a rice transcription factor which has the full amino acid sequence of *SEQ ID NO:3*” (*emphasis added*) contained a typographic error and should read “a rice transcription factor which has the full amino acid sequence of *SEQ ID NO:2*”. One of ordinary skill in the art would also readily

recognize, in light of the sequence alignment provided in the original Figure and the Sequence listing, that the residue numbers in the Description of the drawing correspond to those recited in the amended (c) and (d) clauses.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments submitted herewith. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone if he or she believes that personal communication would expedite prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. P. Romano', is written over a horizontal line.

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